

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DAVE LEWIS**, on April 22, 2003 at
11:00 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dave Lewis, Chairman (R)
Rep. Rosalie (Rosie) Buzzas, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Edith Clark, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Eve Franklin (D)
Rep. Dick Haines (R)
Rep. Donald L. Hedges (R)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau (D)
Rep. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Rep. Monica Lindeen (D)
Rep. John Musgrove (D)
Rep. Jeff Pattison (R)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. John Sinrud (R)
Rep. John Witt (R)

Members Excused: Rep. John Brueggeman (R)
Rep. Stanley (Stan) Fisher (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jon Moe, Legislative Branch
Mary Lou Schmitz, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 492, 4/17/2003
Executive Action: SB 492

HEARING ON SB 492

Sponsor: SENATOR ROYAL JOHNSON, SD 5, Billings

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SENATOR JOHNSON said this bill sets some definitive language into the statutes as to how the University system will make their reports. Page 2, line 14 describes exactly what the bill does. The acting Commissioner of Higher Education does not have any problem with the bill.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: Jon Moe, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, said, for clarification, "In March, Greg Petesch put out a letter that explained his review of HB 2 and HB 2 had this language in it in past years. He determined that it probably wasn't the appropriate place for this language so this language is being codified in statute by this bill."

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. HAINES said there is no applied approval process in submitting it to the Office of Budget and Program Planning and Legislative Fiscal Analyst. It is just an informational process. **SENATOR JOHNSON** said that is right.

In answer to a question from **REP. CALLAHAN**, **SENATOR JOHNSON** said, "No, it is not anything that is required. This situation sets it in statute so they know it is the law and they don't have to look to HB 2 because every year HB 2 changes. It does not require them to do anything different than they had except to make sure that the Office of Budget and Program Planning and the Fiscal Analysts do have copies of information about the bill."

REP. FRANKLIN asked if there was any difference in the technical area and will there be additional staff needed to do this work. **Rod Sundsted, Commissioner of Higher Education**, said he doesn't see any changes. This language is currently in HB 2.

Closing by Sponsor:

SENATOR JOHNSON closed the Hearing on SB 492.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 492

Motion/Vote: REP. HEDGES moved that SB 492 BE CONCURRED IN.
Motion carried unanimously 16-0 on a voice vote. REP. HEDGES
will carry the bill on the House floor.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 9.3}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:15 A.M.

REP. DAVE LEWIS, Chairman

MARY LOU SCHMITZ, Secretary

DL/MS

EXHIBIT (aph85aad)